AN INVESTIGATION ON THE EFFECTS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN ZIMBABWE. A CASE STUDY OF MBARE DISTRICT.

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ABSTRACT

The overall aim of the study was to investigate on the effects of human trafficking in Zimbabwe. A case study of Mbare District. The study was carried out at Mbare District, Zimbabwe. Focus Group Discussions and key informant interviews are research design used to gather data. Phenomenology was selected as an effective tool for studying structures of conscious experience as experienced from the first-person point of view, along with relevant conditions of experience. The central structure of an experience is its intentionality; the way it is directed through its content or meaning toward a certain object in the world. Key Informant interviews were used as data collecting tool in order to allow one-to-one probing and asking questions from the stakeholders who directly work with the victims of human trafficking such as police officer, and NGO officers who are familiar with the victims of human trafficking. Thematic analysis was used to analyse qualitative data. Focus Group Discussions were used in order to obtain an accurate description of the participants’ lived experiences of people who have been trafficked. The study found out that, due to economic hardships Mbare residents especially woman and youths are forced to engage on border jumping and other forms anti-social activities including criminal activities so as to earn a living. The researcher recommended that government should intensify anti- human trafficking measures, empower people on human trafficking issues, monitor and evaluate legal frameworks on human trafficking mitigation. Major drawback of the study was that a small sample was used and all participants were drawn from one area of resident, which may however compromise the validity of this research. Future research in this area must use a large sample in order to ensure great external validity.